

RESOLUTION NO. 10754-041707  
A RESOLUTION OF SUPPORT FOR INCREASED PUBLIC ACCESS  
TO THE LAKE MICHIGAN LAKEFRONT

WHEREAS on August 1, 2006 the City of Oak Creek ("Oak Creek") and IRG Oak Creek, LLC ("IRG") entered into a Master Developer Designation and Cooperation Agreement, and

WHEREAS the purpose of the Master Developer Agreement is for Oak Creek to establish a master developer relationship for the development of lands generally bounded by Puetz Road on the north, Lake Michigan on the east, Oakwood Road on the south and Fifth Avenue and Highway 32 on the west (the "Redevelopment Area"), and

WHEREAS the Redevelopment Area north of Ryan Road has beautiful and scenic vistas overlooking Lake Michigan, but in the past has been occupied by factories which are no longer operating including the former Peter Cooper Glue factory, the former Hynite Fertilizer factory, the former Wabash Alloys factory and former Allis-Chalmers plant, and

WHEREAS the Redevelopment Area north of Ryan Road has been environmentally contaminated as a result of its historic use, and

WHEREAS Bender Park is located in the Redevelopment Area south of Ryan Road, and

WHEREAS Bender Park was acquired by Milwaukee County in the late 1950's through the use of the water conservation fund (LAWCON) Funding Assistance), and

WHEREAS a boat launch was developed at Bender Park in the late 1990's and the boat launch is utilized by members of the public for access to Lake Michigan, and

WHEREAS the balance of Bender Park remains undeveloped in that there are no trails, bike paths, benches or other amenities to support passive recreational uses by the public, and

WHEREAS a portion of Bender Park has been leased by Milwaukee County for farming purposes, and

WHEREAS IRG, in conjunction with the City of Oak Creek, wishes to remediate the environmentally contaminated portion of the Redevelopment Area north of Ryan Road so that it can be utilized for passive recreational purposes, and

WHEREAS, the City of Oak Creek is requesting Milwaukee County to exchange a portion of Bender Park for a portion of the lands owned by EPEC Polymers, Inc., E.I. DuPont Demurs Company, Oak Creek Storage, Inc., Fifth Property, LLC. And Wabash Alloys, LLC all of which are depicted on Exhibit A, if, as and when the above properties are remediated to a degree satisfactory to Milwaukee County, the State of Wisconsin and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, if applicable, to a standard that will safely allow passive recreational uses, and

WHEREAS, IRG has advised the City that the creation of a ribbon park along the lakefront from the south border of the MMSD treatment plant to the north border of the WE Energies property is not economically feasible without the exchange of lands with Milwaukee County.

WHEREAS, the City of Oak Creek believes that the exchange of lands is in the best interests of its constituents and County of Milwaukee residents in that the plan will:

- Provide access to the lakefront and to the waters edge by all Milwaukee County residents and visitors.
- Preserve, protect and enhance the scenic and natural beauty of the lakefront.
- Make accessible an additional three quarters of a mile of lakefront for public access and it would encourage passive recreational opportunities along the lakefront including jogging, walking, running, biking, in-line skating, picnicking, strolling, moon gazing, handholding, writing and study, socializing, contemplating and relaxing.
- Approximately three hundred and thirty-six acres of environmentally contaminated property will be remediated to a standard that will allow active and passive recreational uses.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and the Common Council that it supports the lakefront redevelopment plan prepared in conjunction with IRG including exchange of lands with Milwaukee County to:

- Encourage passive recreational uses along the lakefront.
- Preserve and protect the scenic and natural beauty of the lakefront.
- Provide access to the lakefront and especially to the waters edge by all Milwaukee County residents and visitors including City of Oak Creek residents.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Oak Creek Common Council hereby urges the Lakefront Advisory Commission to recommend approval of this plan to the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Oak Creek Common Council hereby urges the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors to endorse this plan that will achieve the vision, purpose and goals of the Lakefront Advisory Commission.